



FEM Fédération Européenne des Métallurgistes dans la Communauté

EMB Europäischer Metallgewerkschaftsbund in der Gemeinschaft

EMF European Metalworkers' Federation in the Community

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**E.M.F. POSITION PAPER
ON THE EUROPEAN TECHNOLOGY COMMUNITY**

Scientific and technological autonomy is an indispensable prerequisite for Europe's political and economic independence and for maintaining its social and cultural identity.

The European metalworkers' unions affiliated to the E.M.F. consider research and technology policy to be an integral part of an industrial policy capable of ensuring both the modernisation of the European economy and its international competitiveness, as well as its capacity for job-creation and improving living standards and working conditions.

They demand the definition of clear priorities with regard to European research, backed by sufficient financial means provided by both private and public sources. For this purpose, they call for the Community budget to be revised so as to provide an increase in appropriations for joint research.

Social utility and economic utility must be the determinant criteria for the choice of project. Community policy must apply exclusively to civilian fields, take social effects into account, contribute to environmental protection and help to reduce the disparities between regions of the Community.

The EUREKA project constitutes a European response of a civilian nature to the SDI programme. It can be an instrument of an active European policy in the technological and industrial field. However, this project must be incorporated within the Community framework to combine the effects of EUREKA with those of other Community programmes that are already being carried out, such as ESPRIT, BRITE and RACE.

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In addition, it is essential that the European Technology Community goes hand in hand with a European social area, which means that it is necessary to involve the workers and their unions in the decision-making process with regard to employment, working conditions and vocational training measures.

In this connection, the E.M.F. calls for a directive laying down information, consultation and negotiation procedures at company level, a legal framework aimed at ensuring protection of the workers, and involvement of Works Councils in research projects financed by public money.

The E.M.F. insists on the fact that research and technology should serve human ends, and that they must not remain indifferent to effects on employment, vocational training, skills and living and working conditions. The E.M.F. therefore calls for the setting-up of a European research and development programme with regard to the humanisation of working conditions.
